

MAIL STOP APPEAL BRIEF-PATENTS
PATENT
1515-1034

**IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BEFORE
THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES**

In re application of

Appeal No.

Stefan VIRTANEN

Conf. 4900

Application No. 10/534,365

Group 3676

Filed December 5, 2005

Examiner D. Stephenson

A REAMER ASSEMBLY

REPLY BRIEF

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONORS:

January 5, 2009

The Examiner's reading of claim 1 on BRANDENBERG et al. U.S. Patent 6,799,648 is erroneous. According to the Examiner, each of the conical segments (18) has plural drill buttons (one on the flat portion and one on the angled portion for a total of two) disposed at different distances from the center axis of the drill bit.

But in fact, in our claim 1, we recite at least three conical segments (18) which are terminated with a transverse end surface (21) which directly connects the conical segments, each of the conical segments (18) having plural drill buttons (16) disposed at different distances from the center axis of the drill bit.

Thus, in our claim 1, we clearly distinguish the conical segments (18) from the transverse end surface (21) which directly connects these conical segments.

Hence, you cannot count drill buttons on the transverse end surface (21) in combination with drill buttons on the conical segments (18), as satisfying the requirement that the drill buttons (16) on the conical segments (18) are disposed at difference distances from the center axis of the drill bit, as required by our claim 1.

Hence, the rejection of the claims on anticipation must fail, and its reversal is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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